

Index to Volume 22, Numbers 1-6 July-December 1975

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L (letters)
Legis (Legislation column)
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PM (President's message column)
Q&A (Questions & answers—the experts research column)
Res (Research committee column)
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AORN Librarian

Anesthesia refuted as cause of asthma

New evidence fails to support a previous report that general anesthesia during the first two years of life may be a factor predisposing children to develop asthma or hay fever.

The study at the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Ont, was performed on three groups of children, two undergoing surgery, and the third, a control group that had not been exposed to anesthesia.

"The results of the surgery which were transferred to computer cards for analysis, showed no significant difference among the three groups in the incidence of respiratory allergy," Anne E P Jones, MD, reported at the annual meeting of the American Society of Anesthesiologists.

The report of an increased incidence of respiratory allergy was made in January 1974, in a paper presented to the American Academy of Allergy. To determine if anesthetic drugs might have an effect on cells producing immune bodies, the Toronto researchers proceeded to study the three groups of children. The first group had surgery on the stomach at an age of under three months. A second group was operated on for hernia or strabismus when under two years of age. The control group was born at the Toronto General Hospital during the same period of 1961 and 1962, with no history of surgery under age two.

Families of the children, now 13 and 14 years old, were given a questionnaire designed to discover the incidence of diagnosed asthma or hay fever.

NSNA program funded

The National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA) has been funded for a second year by the Division of Nursing, US Department of Health, Education, and Welfare for its "Breakthrough to nursing" minority recruitment project. The funding, for second year of a three-year grant, is \$307,000 and will be used to recruit Black, native American, and Spanish-speaking American men and women into schools of nursing.

The actual recruitment is done by students in 40 funded target areas across the country. Each target area receives \$3,000 for use by students to find and help potential nursing students enter schools of nursing.